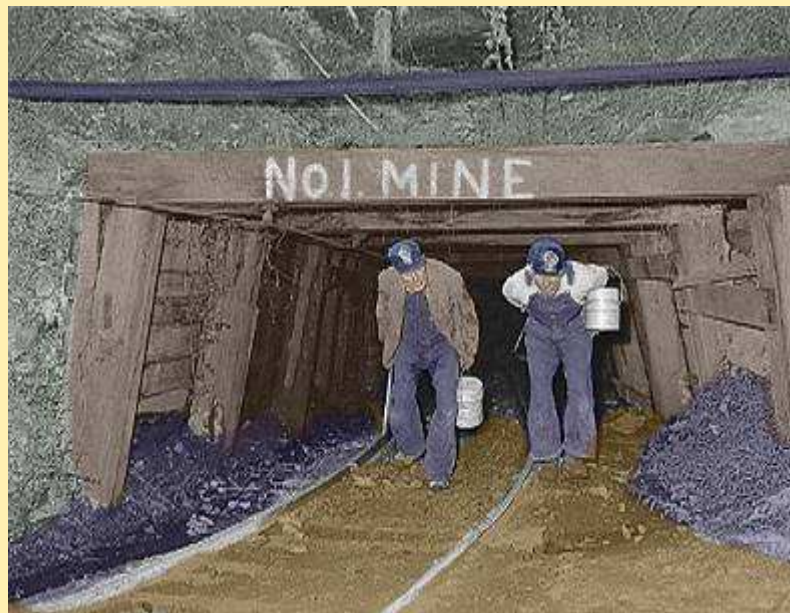




# OFFICE OF MINE SAFETY AND LICENSING



QUARTERLY NEWS & REPORT  
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2007

# WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES!



ASHLEY SMITH  
CO - OP STUDENT  
BARBOURVILLE  
JUNE 1, 2007



RAY HAYS  
ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II  
BARBOURVILLE  
AUGUST 16, 2007



DEAN BUSH  
MINE SAFETY ANALYST  
BARBOURVILLE  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2007



WALTER BRUMLEY  
MINE INSPECTOR I  
BARBOURVILLE  
OCTOBER 16, 2007

# WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES!



TERESA A. MILLS  
ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II  
BARBOURVILLE  
NOVEMBER 16, 2007



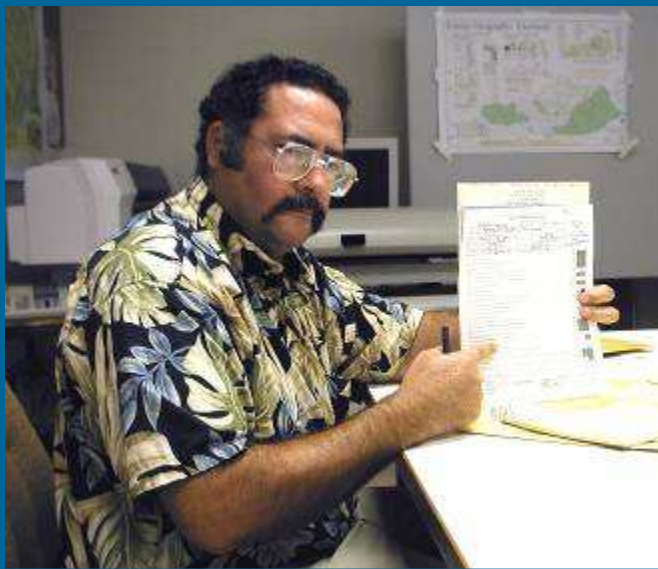
JOHN BUSH  
OFFICE SUPPORT ASSISTANT II  
FRANKFORT (INSPECTIONS)  
NOVEMBER 16, 2007

SIERRA STEVENS,  
OFFICE SUPPORT ASSISTANT II  
FRANKFORT (RECEPTIONIST)  
DECEMBER 1, 2007



HELLO EVERYONE! MY NAME IS SIERRA STEVENS AND I AM THE NEW VOICE YOU WILL HEAR AT OMSL IN FRANKFORT. I'M VERY EXCITED TO JOIN THE WORK FAMILY. I HAVE LIVED MOST OF MY LIFE IN FRANKFORT WITH MY MOM AND MY YOUNGER BROTHER. AFTER GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL I HAD COMPLETED 2 ½ YEARS AT GEORGETOWN COLLEGE WHEN I DECIDED TO TAKE A CHANCE AND TRY SOMETHING DIFFERENT. DOING THIS OPENED DOORS AND OFFERED A VAST OPPORTUNITY. MY CAREER IN STATE GOVERNMENT IS JUST STARTING;

I HOPE TO BE THE CONNECTION BETWEEN YOU AND THE PEOPLE WHO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS. I LOOK FORWARD TO TALKING TO YOU ALL.



# Dan O'Canna

## 1953 - 2007

### In Loving Memory

Dan O'Canna, a long-term employee of the "map room" died of a heart attack on December 12th, 2007 at the age of 54. Dan was an employee of the U.K. Center for Applied Energy Research subcontracted to the state as part of the lab's Mine Mapping Program. Dan had worked for the Kentucky Department of Mines & Minerals aka OMSL in mapping for over 25 years. He started in 1978 as a student worker while completing his Agriculture degree with a concentration in equine research. He returned to the map room full time after a stint with the UK Entomology Department as a lab technician.

His concentration was the Mine Map Information System (MMIS) mapping database. He was instrumental in the evolution of that database and in creating tens of thousands of mine map records. He was also responsible for the conversion of the MITEC Training, Education & Certification database from the IBM mainframe. This Vax database was a major undertaking and his work saved the Commonwealth hundreds of thousands of dollars. The accuracy of the data in this database is a testament to his hard work and it is used to this day to track miner certification.

Customer service in-house as well as phone support was also one of Dan's major tasks in the office. He dealt with thousands of customers over the years on a one-to-one basis. He was well known in the world of coal mining. Mine map problem solving was his forte' and the mining community and public relied on his accurate and detailed investigation of coal mining issues, which promoted mine safety.

His legacy will be the massive amount of coal mine records created or corrected along with their corresponding scanned map imagery. These data and maps will be continually downloaded from the mapping website by everyone for the foreseeable future . His data error correction across the board, as well as archival microfiche work should outlive us all and continue to make Kentucky coal mining safer forever.



On October 10, 2007 the latest Mine Emergency Response Drill (**MERD**) was held at the Clover Fork No. 1 mine in the Harlan County District. Five mine rescue teams participated: the Loan Mountain Mine Rescue Team, the Mountain Laurel Mine Rescue Team, the Barbourville OMSL District team, the Harlan OMSL District team, and the Pikeville District OMSL team. These exercises allow all participants to make suggestions for improvement, which can greatly increase the likelihood of successfully rescuing our coal miners. Thanks to all who were involved.



Pictures from the simulation



## Mine Rescue Team Underground during the Emergency Response Drill      October 10, 2007



**These last two photos demonstrate the poor visibility in a smoke filled mine. There were non-toxic smoke machines to create this condition.**





# FATALITIES AND SERIOUS ACCIDENTS JANUARY 1, 2007 - DECEMBER 15, 2007

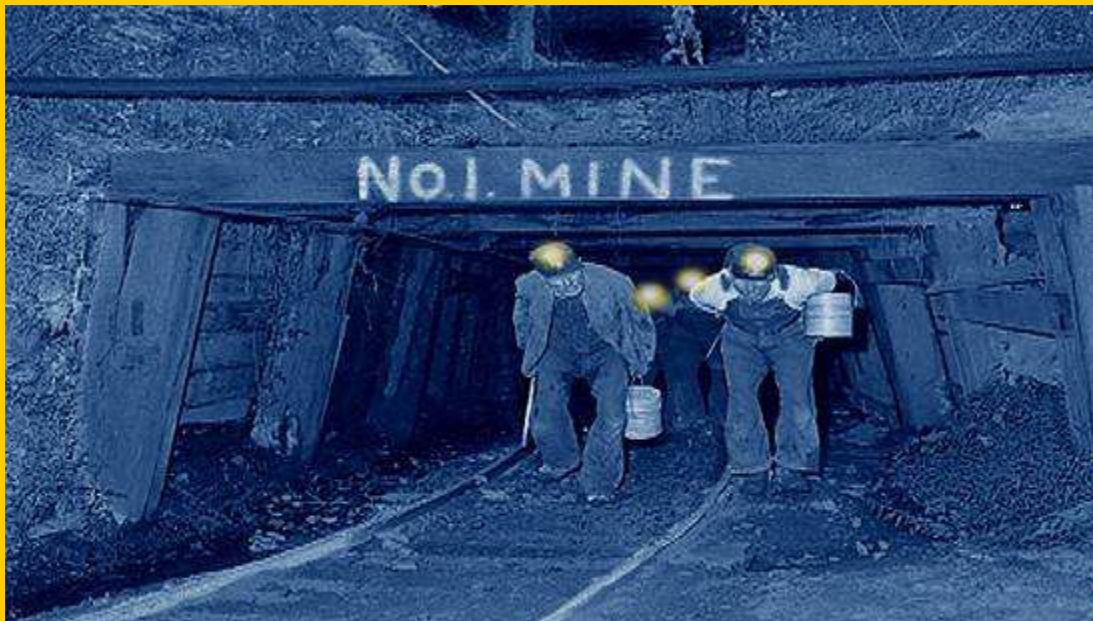
HAPPILY THERE ARE NO NEW FATALITIES OR SERIOUS  
ACCIDENTS TO REPORT SINCE THE LAST NEWSLETTER.  
KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

- ♥ SERIOUS-01-29-07 - LESTER CANTRELL - APEX ENERGY INC - MACHINERY
- ♥ SERIOUS-02-02-07 - GARY ROBERTS - BLUE DIAMOND COAL CO - FALL OF ROOF
- ♥ SERIOUS-02-03-07 - CHRISTOPHER KELLY - LONE MOUNTAIN PROC - MACHINERY
- ♥ FATALITY-03-12-07 - CHARLES I GRIFFITH - DOUBLE E AUGERING INC - MACHINERY
- ♥ SERIOUS-05-23-07 - DANIEL SMITH - BLUE DIAMOND COAL CO - FALL OF ROOF
- ♥ SERIOUS-05-28-07 - ORA MURPHY - SIDNEY COAL CO. INC - ELECTRICAL
- ♥ FATALITY-07-16-07 - BOBBIE L. MESSER - CAM MINING LLC - STRUCK BY FLY ROCK

TO VIEW A FULL REPORT GO TO  
[HTTP://WWW.OMSL.KY.GOV/INVESTIGATIONS/](http://www.OMSL.KY.GOV/INVESTIGATIONS/)

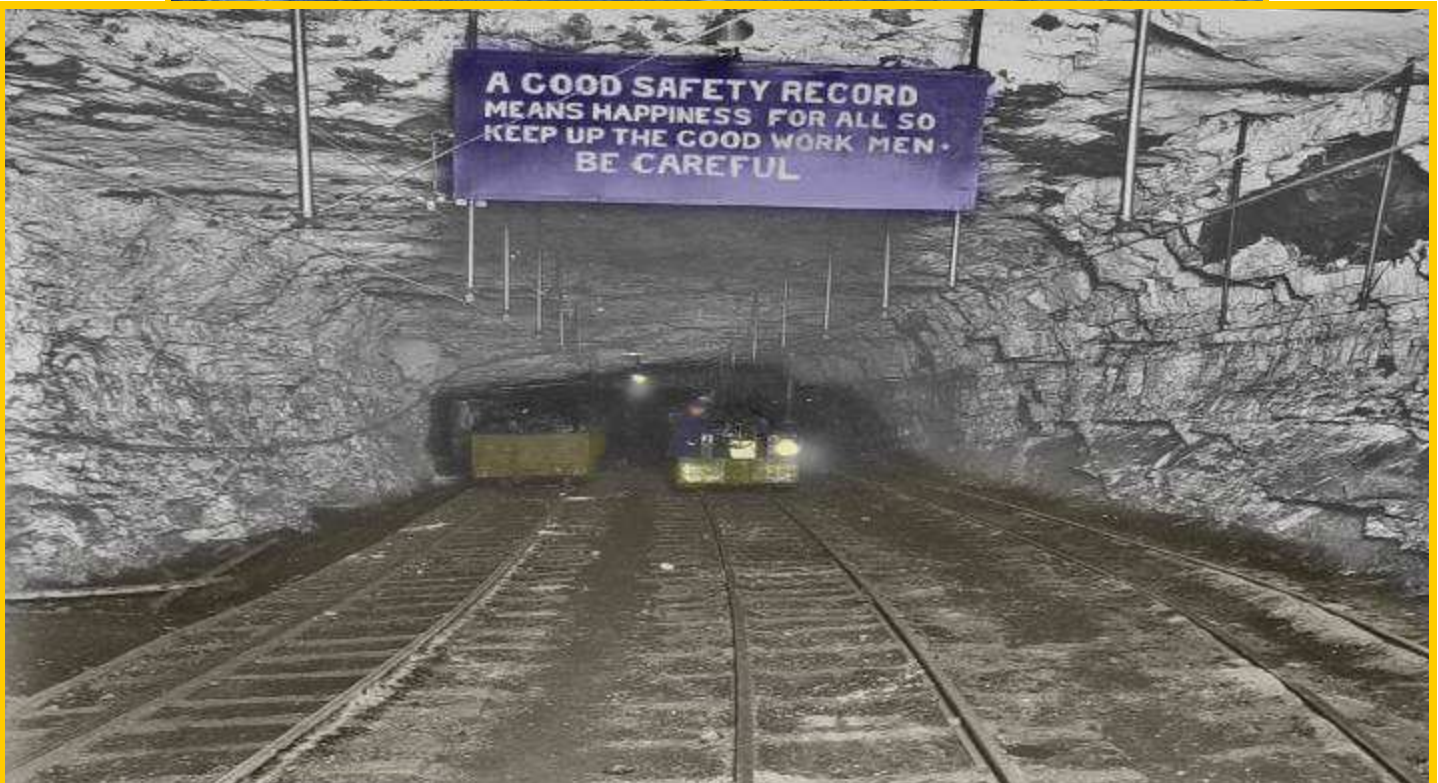


**To view  
OMSL Disciplinary Cases before the  
Kentucky Mine Safety Review Commission  
go to  
<http://www.omsl.ky.gov/>**



Pictures by  
Roger Philpot

<http://rogerphpot.homestead.com>



According to KRS 351.025 (6), the Office of Mine Safety and Licensing will establish procedures to distribute quarterly reports to every licensed entity describing mine fatalities, serious mine accidents, and penalties imposed on certified and non-certified personnel and licensed premises and to require the report to be distributed to every certified working miner employed by the licensed entity, posted at work sites, and reviewed at regular mine safety meetings.